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NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM PARTIES INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION

Progress with regard to in-depth reviews of first national communications and status of submission of second national communications

Note by the secretariat

1. The present note describes the progress made with regard to in-depth reviews of first national communications from Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, and contains information on submissions and distribution of second national communications.

2. All Annex I Parties, except Lithuania (submission due date 22 December 1995), have submitted their first national communication. At the time of preparation of this note, 32 country visits had taken place in connection with the in-depth reviews of national communications and 26 in-depth review reports had been issued (with at least two more to be issued in August).

3. In accordance with decision 2/CP.1 of the Conference of the Parties (COP), summaries of the reports of the in-depth reviews are made available to all Parties and accredited observers. These summaries are one to two pages in length and are available in the six official languages of the United Nations. The full texts of the reports are available in their original language. These reports including their summaries are also accessible on-line via the World Wide Web (http://www.unfccc.de) and APC network (Econet, un.fccc conference).

4. The table in this document provides an update on the dates of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession of Parties included in Annex I to the Convention, the dates on which the first national communications were due following the entry into force of the Convention, the dates on which the first national communications were received, and the dates of in-depth review country visits.

5. The COP 2, by its decision 9/CP.2, requested Annex I Parties to submit their second national communication by 15 April 1997. For those Parties which were due to submit the first communication in 1996, an update of this communication was to be submitted by the same date; second national communications by Parties with economies in transition should in principle be submitted not later than 15 April 1998. National inventory data on emissions by sources and removals by sinks are to be submitted on an annual basis by 15 April of each year.

6. Of the second communications that were due by 15 April 1997, six were received on time (Canada, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom) and six after the deadline (France, Ireland, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland and Monaco which, though not an Annex I Party, notified the Depositary that it intends to be bound by subparagraphs (a) and (b) of Article 4.2). Second communications have not been received from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, the European Community, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Portugal, Spain and the United States of America. Hungary, Japan, Latvia, Russian Federation and Slovakia made available to the secretariat updated greenhouse gas inventories (in some cases advance or preliminary ones).

7. According to decisions of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the Conferences of the Parties, 500 copies of second national communication are to be submitted to the secretariat for subsequent distribution, as well as an electronic version of an executive summary of the national communication. At the time of writing the requested number of copies have been received by the secretariat from six Parties (Canada, Finland, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) with the United Kingdom being the only Party to submit 500 copies on time. The secretariat has dispatched the first batch containing the second communications of the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom to all Parties and observer States to the Convention, as well as to a number of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The next batch will include the communications from Canada, Finland and Norway. Further mailings will be made as soon as more communications are received.

First National Communications: State of Progress

Annex I Party	Date of ratification*	Communication due date	Communication received date	Review visit dates
Australia***	30.12.92	21.09.94	19.09.94	26-30.06.95
Austria***	28.02.94	29.11.94	23.09.94	04-07.12.95
Belarus**	-	-	-	-
Belgium	16.01.96	15.10.96	21.03.97	-
Bulgaria	12.05.95	10.02.96	11.03.96	01-04.10.96
Canada***	04.12.92	21.09.94	07.02.94	29.05-02.06.95
Czech Republic***	07.10.93	21.09.94	17.10.94	02-05.05.95
Denmark***	21.12.93	21.09.94	01.09.94	14-18.08.95
E.C.***	21.12.93	21.09.94	08.07.96	10-15.11.96
Estonia***	27.07.94	25.04.95	06.05.95	16-17.05.96
Finland***	03.05.94	01.02.95	30.01.95	29.1-02.02.96
France	25.03.94	23.12.94	06.02.95	17-21.06.96
Germany***	09.12.93	21.09.94	28.09.94	20-24.11.95
Greece	04.08.94	02.05.95	23.03.95	08-11.04.97
Hungary***	24.02.94	25.11.94	22.11.94	24-29.11.96
Iceland***	16.06.93	21.09.94	04.03.96	09-13.09.96
Ireland***	20.04.94	19.01.95	15.11.94	29.01-02.02.96
Italy***	15.04.94	14.01.95	04.04.95	11-15.11.96
Japan***	28.05.93	21.09.94	20.09.94	03-07.07.95
Latvia***	23.03.95	21.12.95	20.09.95	13-14.05.96
Lithuania	24.03.95	22.12.95	-	-
Luxembourg	09.05.94	07.02.95	25.03.96	13-16.11.96
Netherlands***	20.12.93	21.09.94	20.09.94	20-24.11.95

TABLE 1. (*continued*)

Annex I Party	Date of ratification*	Communication due date	Communication received date	Review visit dates
New Zealand***	16.09.93	21.09.94	21.09.94	03-07.07.95
Norway***	09.07.93	21.09.94	21.09.94	23-27.10.95
Poland	28.07.94	26.04.95	02.02.95	25-29.03.96
Portugal***	21.12.93	21.09.94	25.01.95	09-13.09.96
Romania	08.06.94	06.03.95	14.03.95	07-11.10.96
Russian Federation***	28.12.94	28.09.95	05.12.95	22-26.04.96
Slovakia***	25.08.94	24.05.95	11.10.95	02-06.06.96
Spain***	21.12.93	21.09.94	28.09.94	25-29.09.95
Sweden***	23.06.93	21.09.94	20.09.94	13-17.03.95
Switzerland***	10.12.93	21.09.94	21.09.94	11-14.09.95
Turkey**	-	-	-	-
Ukraine	13.05.97	13.02.98	-	-
United Kingdom***	08.12.93	21.09.94	07.02.94	09-13.10.95
United States of America***	15.10.92	21.09.94	21.09.94	22-26.05.95
Liechtenstein★	22.06.94	22.03.95	24.02.95	-
Monaco ★	24.11.92	21.09.94	25.10.94	-

* For the purpose of this document, all references to ratification include information on accession, acceptance and approval of the Convention.

** Country that has not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention.

*** In-depth review report published (as at 24 July 1997).

★ As stipulated in Article 4.2(g) of the Convention, any Party not included in Annex I may, in its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, or at any time thereafter, notify the Depositary that it intends to be bound by subparagraphs (a) and (b) of Article 4.2. Monaco notified the Depositary of its intention to be bound by these subparagraphs on 24 November 1992. Liechtenstein has not notified the Depositary of its intention to be bound by these subparagraphs.

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